**Alice Tilche, School of Museum Studies (17.06.22)**

My name is Alice Tilche, I work at the School of Museum Studies, where I’m a Lecturer in Anthropology and Museum Studies.

I do always work across the disciplines of Art, Museum Studies and Anthropology – Museum Studies itself is an interdisciplinary field. During the pandemic I’ve been working on a series of research projects with indigenous artists and film-makers in India, documenting the – really capturing the experiences of the pandemic among marginalised communities, especially indigenous communities, by using arts-based methods. We especially work with theatre and film, and have done a series of video podcasts that have been going on for the last couple of years, again on the experience of the pandemic, on safety measures, but also really creating memory against erasure, let’s say, you know, creating memories that are not being documented at the moment.

I think the gap that exists between different disciplines has worked quite nicely actually in this project, because of the distance – this was a project that was collaborative in the way it was written, it was actually co-created with the communities it worked with, so it was co-written with this group of theatre practitioners, and especially with a film-maker who is himself from an indigenous community.

I started actually doing interdisciplinary work a little bit without thinking, so I started working with objects, and then with art practices, and then – so I think I thought about my methodology and my collaboration a little bit afterwards. The other thing is that I like working with people, and so this is kind of a natural predisposition, so I think research is a wonderful way to bring people together, to put people in dialogue with each other, and this is something I like to do and that I’ve always done in my work.

Working with artists, you notice a lot of parallels between the kind of questions that they ask about the world, and the kind of questions us as anthropologists or researchers may ask about the world, so I think that is something that is becoming increasingly clear, and you know, the way that we go about answering and engaging with these questions might be different, but bringing these two aspects together is always fruitful.

The project has really grown into, becoming a bigger project, but also incorporating ideas about the transformative power of film, about, you know, collaborative methods in research, indigenous methodologies, and so, it’s kind of really opened new fields of research for myself and I think also for the collaborators, the artists that have been involved.

I often end up taking a walk down New Walk, which is a pedestrian street behind Museum Studies, but also goes past New Walk Museum, and that’s a lovely street.